

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
U.S. Patent Application 09/360,951  
Our Ref: A7753

Cont. 21  
a colored oligomer having the at least one chromophore molecule covalently bonded thereto and wherein the colored oligomer is capable of covalent bonding with the radiation curable composition;

applying the coating composition to at least a portion of the transmission medium;  
and

exposing the applied coating composition for a suitable period of time to radiation of a suitable wavelength and intensity to cause curing of the composition into the color identifying polymeric coating.

Cl 2  
Claim 21 (Amended). The method of claim 13, wherein the transmission medium is an optical fiber having a core and a cladding surrounding the core.

Claim 22 (Amended). The method of claim 13, wherein the transmission medium is an optical fiber having a core, a cladding surround the core and a polymeric coating on the cladding.

Claim 23 (Amended). The method of claim 13, wherein the transmission medium is an optical fiber having a core, a cladding surrounding the core, an inner polymeric coating on the cladding and an outer polymeric coating on the inner polymeric coating.

Claim 24 (Amended). The method of claim 13, wherein the transmission medium is a plurality of optical fibers arranged in an array.

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Please add the following new claims:

25 (New). The telecommunication element of claim 1, wherein said at least one chromophore molecule comprises an anthraquinone.

26 (New). The telecommunication element of claim 1, wherein said at least one chromophore molecule comprises a methione.

27 (New). The telecommunication element of claim 1, wherein said at least one chromophore molecule comprises an azo compound.

28 (New). The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one chromophore molecule comprises an anthraquinone.

29 (New). The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one chromophore molecule comprises a methione.

30 (New). 27 (New). The method of claim 13, wherein said at least one chromophore molecule comprises an azo compound.

31 (New). A color coating comprising:  
a radiation curable composition for forming a polymeric coating; and

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a colored oligomer having at least one chromophore molecule covalently bonded thereto,  
said colored oligomer being covalently bonded to the radiation curable composition.—